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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 5834  
RUEAORC/USCBP WASHDC  
RHEBAAA/USDOE WASHDC  
RUCPDO/DEPT OF COMMERCE WASHDC  
RULSJGA/COMDT COGARD WASHINGTON DC  
RECNEXC/EXPORT CONTROL AND RELATED BORDER SECURITY  
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC  
RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHDC  
RHMFIUU/DEPT OF JUSTICE WASHDC  
RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHDC

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SIPDIS

STATE FOR ISN/ECC JFRIEDMAN, ACHURCH, NJOHANSON, LSPRINGER  
CBP FOR INA, PLEASE PASS TO TCORWIN  
USDOE WASHDC ALSO FOR NNSA, PLEASE PASS TO TPERRY

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [ETTC](#) [MNUC](#) [PARM](#) [PREL](#) [KSTC](#) [KNNP](#) [UP](#) [RS](#)

SUBJECT: EXBS: RUSSIA ADVISOR MONTHLY REPORTING CABLE - DECEMBER  
2009

¶1. Begin summary: BROAD ITEMS OF INTEREST TO ADVISORS AND AGENCY MANAGERS: Planning with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs proceeds on the reinstituted Program Review and Export Licensing Exchange scheduled for February 2010. EXBS has submitted data on training conducted through the program for the past 5 years at the request of UGA/CITS, which is doing an assessment of the Russian export controls system. End summary.

¶2. Completed Actions for Reporting Period.

¶A. Site Assessments and Meetings During the Reporting Period.

i. December 8 - EXBS Advisor and Assistant met with representatives of the export controls section within the Security and Disarmament Department of the Russian Foreign Ministry. The meeting was organized to present to EXBS feedback from MFA and other agencies regarding the agenda for the Program Review and the Program Plan for FY08, FY09, and FY10. During this meeting, MFA took the opportunity to raise concerns about issues related to implementation of UNSCR 1540 and arms control compliance - items outside the focus of the meeting agenda. These concerns are the topic of a separate cable, MRN 003018, dated December 16.

ii. December 9 - EXBS Advisor participated in a roundtable discussion at the embassy led by Ambassador Bonnie Jenkins, Coordinator for Threat Reduction Programs, which also included DTRA, DOE, and EST, plus the U.S. Civilian Research and Development Foundation (CRDF) and the Center for Policy Studies (PIR Center), regarding the future of the International Science and Technology Center (ISTC). One PIR Center representative commented that Russia finds itself in a complex position in nonproliferation efforts: some forces within the government are trying to get to nuclear zero, while other forces support continued nuclear testing.

iii. December 10 - EXBS Advisor attended the 15th anniversary conference of ISTC in Moscow. The breakout session on "ISTC Impacts - Nuclear" had the most relevance for EXBS, in that it presented ISTC's cooperation with US and European scientists to jointly develop peaceful uses for nuclear energy.

iv. December 10 - EXBS Advisor attended the Customs Attache Club event at the Chinese Embassy. The program included speeches by the Chinese ambassador and other prominent embassy staff recalling the 60th anniversary of the People's Republic; the achievements of China Customs; and China's longstanding cooperation with the Soviet Union

and Russia. There was also a Chinese tea-drinking ceremony and performances by Chinese opera and pop singers and, of course, Chinese food.

v. December 10 - EXBS Advisor attended the 10th anniversary celebration of the Open World program at Spaso House, the Ambassador's residence. The Advisor had several productive conversations with embassy staff from the political, economic, and scientific sections, which have resulted in greater information sharing.

vi. EXBS Advisor met with the DCM to deliver a year-end report of EXBS activities and a look ahead to 2010. DCM agreed with Advisor's suggestion that occasional updates can be very useful and will be scheduled during the coming year.

vii. December 30 - EXBS Advisor and FBI Legal Attache Bryan Earl met with University of Georgia Center for International Trade and Security (UGA/CITS) Washington representative Julia Khersonsky. Discussion was very general, touching on topics of mutual interest in the areas of export controls and nonproliferation and ways to improve cooperation with Russian government officials.

#### 1B. Training Conducted During Reporting Period.

i. US Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) accompanied 8 Russian Customs officers on an International Visitor Program (IVP) to US ports of entry December 12-20 in Southern California and Washington, DC. Feedback from various sources, both US and Russian, indicated that the delegation was very impressed by the technological and procedural efficiency of U.S. Customs operations, especially at the Long Beach port. The

group left the U.S. to return to Russia one day later than planned, due to massive snowfall on the East Coast.

#### 1C. Equipment Delivered During Reporting Period.

i. The EXBS Russia program does not distribute equipment.

#### 13. Imminent Training or Equipment Status Update

i. In January, EXBS will reconnect with CBP, which is working with the Russian Embassy in Washington, on an IVP for Rosgranitsa, the new federal agency charged with security of border facilities. Rosgranitsa had approached CBP last fall for assistance in visiting US ports of entry. The visit was postponed to at least March 2010 due to the holidays and the extended medical leave of the CBP Program Manager. EXBS has been working with CBP on this trip and may also develop program activities with Rosgranitsa and CBP.

#### 14. Significant Developments in Export Controls, Nonproliferation, or Related Border Security

i. On January 1, the customs union with Russia, Kazakhstan and Belarus will go into effect. The three countries will use the same foreign trade tariffs and rules with one another, though it will likely take another six months for all tariffs to be synchronized.

#### 15. Country Plans and Other Assistance

i. EXBS sent a cable MRN 003030 dated December 17 regarding Post concurrence with the FY08, FY09, and FY10 Program Plan. The Russian MFA will provide its comments on the abstract of the programs, submitted on December 7, when the Advisor meets with MFA at their request on January 12. As the lead agency, MFA has previously given broad approval to our program ideas. In addition to receiving final stakeholder approval for the Program Plan, the purpose of this meeting will be to continue to move forward arrangements for the reinstituted Program Review and additional Export Licensing Exchange planned for February in Washington.

16. CONTACT INFORMATION. Joan Agerholm is the EXBS Advisor for Russia and can be reached at AgerholmJA@state.gov, or +7 (985) 410-30-87.

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